

## **OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor is established under Article V, section 2, of the State Constitution, and section 26-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Lieutenant Governor acts as the Governor when the Governor is absent from the State or is unable to exercise and discharge the powers and duties of office. Article V, section 4, of the State Constitution, and section 26-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, provide for the succession to the office of governor. When both the offices of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor are vacant or when the Office of the Lieutenant Governor is vacant, the order of succession is as follows: the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Attorney General, the Director of Finance, the Comptroller, the Director of Taxation, and the Director of Personnel Services. If the Lieutenant Governor's Office is only temporarily vacant, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives are excluded from the line of succession.

The Lieutenant Governor is responsible for the recordation of all legislative and gubernatorial acts, the administrative rules of state departments and agencies, and the certification of state documents. The Office also provides for the establishment of prices for Session Laws and Supplements to the Hawaii Revised Statutes and the Journals of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and the sale and distribution of the Laws, Statutes and Supplements, and Journals. In addition, the Lieutenant Governor issues the decrees of change of names and performs the duties and functions previously exercised by the Secretary of Hawaii.

The Lieutenant Governor heads special task forces or projects, as delegated by the Governor, and serves as community liaison. Assistance is provided to the departments, the Legislature, and the public when requested. The Office maintains copies of the notices and agenda of public agency meetings for the departments and agencies.

### **Attached for Administrative Purposes**

#### **Boards of Registration**

The Boards of Registration are established under section 11-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Boards hear and decide on appeals that arise from a voter challenge within the districts of each Board. There are four Boards of Registration: County of Hawaii (island of Hawaii); City and County of Honolulu (island of Oahu); County of Kauai (islands of Kauai and Niihau); and the County of Maui (islands of Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Kahoolawe).

The Boards sit in the county seats of their respective counties on election day. The Boards remain convened until all appeals have been heard. The Boards may also convene at the request of the county clerk to hear appeals. Each Board consists of three members appointed by

the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The term of a board member is four years.

### **Campaign Spending Commission**

The Campaign Spending Commission is established under section 11-192, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Commission supervises campaign contributions and expenditures for all state and local elections to ensure that candidates for public office comply with the provisions of law on election campaign contributions and expenditures. In carrying out its duties, the Commission may hold public hearings on complaints of violations of the law. The Commission may investigate complaints and initiate prosecution of violations. The Commission also administers and monitors the distribution of public funds for those candidates eligible to use such funds from the Hawaii elections campaign fund for election purposes.

The Commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor to four-year terms from a list of ten persons selected by the Judicial Council. The Council may solicit applications for nominees through community organizations and advertisements in the newspaper. The Governor fills vacancies on the Commission from the list of nominees or by reappointment of a commissioner whose term has expired.

### **Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women**

The Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women is established under section 367-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Commission consists of thirteen members: six ex officio members including the Superintendent of Education, the President of the University of Hawaii, the Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, the Director of Human Resources Development, the Director of Human Services, and the Director of Health, and seven members appointed by the Governor. An appointed member represents each of the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai; four appointed members represent Oahu. An Executive Director is appointed by the Commission to administer and enforce its objectives.

The Commission is dedicated to ensuring equality of women and girls in the State of Hawaii by acting as a catalyst for change through advocacy, education, collaboration, and program development. The Commission acts as a consultant, communications liaison, coordinating body, and information resource for both public and private organizations, as well as for the broader community. The agency is a strong advocate, dedicated to promoting and facilitating community leadership, mobilization, and collaboration on the broad scope of issues impacting the status of women in Hawaii.

In pursuit of its objectives, the Commission acts as a clearinghouse and coordinating body for activities and information relating to the status of women; creates public awareness and understanding of the responsibilities, needs, potentials, and contributions of women and their roles in the changing society; recommends legislative and administrative action on equal treatment and opportunities for women; maintains contacts with appropriate federal, state, local,

and international agencies concerned with the status of women; and cooperates and collaborates with national groups on the status of women and the four county committees on the status of women.

## **Office of Elections**

The Office of Elections is established pursuant to Act 27, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 1995, codified as section 11-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to provide support to the Chief Election Officer, who is the administrator of the Office.

**Chief Election Officer.** The Chief Election Officer, pursuant to Act 27, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 1995, codified as section 11-1.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is appointed by the Elections Appointment Panel in an odd-numbered year to a term of four years. The Chief Election Officer supervises all state elections; is responsible for maximizing registration of eligible electors throughout the State; maintains data concerning registered voters, elections, apportionment, and districting, using this data to assist the Reapportionment Commission; is responsible for public education regarding voter registration and information; and adopts rules governing elections. Pursuant to the State Constitution, Article IV, section 2, the Chief Election Officer is secretary of the Reapportionment Commission and furnishes all necessary technical services to the Commission.

## **Elections Appointment and Review Panel**

The Elections Appointment and Review Panel is established pursuant to Act 27, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 1995, codified as section 11-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Panel consists of five members who select and appoint the Chief Election Officer, review the operation of elections, and evaluate the performance of the Chief Election Officer.

One member is selected by the Governor. One member is selected by each of the following: the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Minority Leader of the Senate, and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. The term of each member is six years, and no person may be appointed consecutively to more than two terms. The Chairperson of the Panel shall be selected by a majority vote of the Panel from among its members. No panel member is eligible for appointment as Chief Election Officer so long as the person is a member of the Panel and for a period of one year thereafter.

## **Office of Information Practices**

The Office of Information Practices (OIP), established under section 92F-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is placed in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for administrative purposes.

The Office is headed by a Director who is appointed by the Governor. The Office was created to implement and administer the Uniform Information Practices Act (Modified), chapter

92F, Hawaii Revised Statutes (UIPA). The UIPA is Hawaii's public records law which serves to promote open government while protecting the individual's constitutional right to privacy. All government agencies at the state and county levels are subject to the UIPA. In addition, the OIP has jurisdiction over public agency meetings; certain agency boards and commissions are required by part I of chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes (commonly referred to as the "Sunshine Law"), to hold meetings open to the public.

The OIP provides advice and guidance to the public and to government agencies; acts as an appeals agency on denials of access to government records; adopts rules to implement the UIPA; educates the public and government agencies about the UIPA; develops a uniform public records report describing each set of records every government agency routinely uses or maintains; and investigates allegations of violations of the law. In addition, the OIP mediates any disputes based on inquiries and complaints it has received from the public on compliance with the Sunshine Law. The OIP also assists boards and commissions in complying with the Sunshine Law.

